

City of Eau Claire Advisory Commission on Sustainability (ACS)

Annual Work Plan July 2016 - June 2017 *(Approved 7-19-15)*

Project (Eco-Municipality/The Natural Step)*			Policy Ref.	Previous Work	Status
1	Develop sustainable bag educational campaign (Multi-year project)	(1,2, 3,4)	Sustainability Chp. P. 15	Sustainable Bag Committee, Nov. 2013 Report, Ext. Request Denied. Worked with UWEC student on an initial draft reusable bag design.	Education Phase resolution passed. State banned restrictions on bags. Pursuing help from UWEC Art & Design Dept. on edu. campaign.
2	Encourage water efficiency and conservation programs (Multi-year projects)	(1,3, 4)	Sustainability Chp. P. 10, Green Tier Legacy Water Conservation	Council researched a conservation rate in 2013. Not approved. Water quality decals placed by UWEC students. EPA LOS to UWEC for RainWorks Challenge. Not awarded to UWEC.	Edu. tips added to website. ACS resolution for conservation goals for 2025 passed in Aug. 2015. Currently devising a policy brief to council.
3	Increase awareness/support for solar projects. (Multi-year projects)	(1,3, 4)	Sustainability Chp. P. 5	NREL feasibility study. Drafted 2 Community Solar Garden (CSG) surveys (not used since Xcel Energy surveyed in March '15). EC Energy Coop's 872kw+ array & CSG operating.	Xcel launches 1MW CSG at SkyPark Landfill; City subscribes Fairfax Pool at 100%. Supporting local Group Buy.
4	SunShot/Grow Solar Grant Assistance (PV Solar training, solar access ordinance, solar financing solutions) (Two-year project)	(1,3, 4)	Sustainability Chp. P. 5	Electrical inspector received PV training, planner received solar ordinance training. Worked with MREA & grant partners on solar financing and ordinance standards.	Joint mtg. with GTLC & MREA to deploy trainings on 8/31/15. Solar ordinance passed and waiting for Plan Commission and City Council review next. Created a public brochure for solar.
5	Advance projects under Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program (Multi-year program)	(1,3, 4)	Sustainability Chp. P. 4, Green Tier Legacy Communities Community Energy Use	PACE Info mtg. held 4-15 for stakeholders. WI Energy Conservation Corp. (WECC) provided background.	Eau Claire & Chippewa Co. passed PACE ordinance. PACE WI commission to form and launch program. City is represented on commission. Seeking projects.
6	Sustainability Recognition Awards (Multi-year program)	(1,2, 3,4)	ACS Ordinance encourages community promotion	ACS reviewed various programs. Model off St. Paul, MN. Application and criteria list developed.	Program launched. Awards Ceremony held Earth Day 2016. 12 winners selected.
7	Assist on Public Market & Local Food Systems Planning (Two year project)	(3, 4)	Health Chp. Ps. 23-25, Sustainability Chp. P. 8	Submitted a USDA Grant in May for a public market feasibility study. USDA grant awarded.	Consultant selected, steering committee forming, study ends in Sept.
8	Create an inventory of polluted sites and monitor efforts for redevelopment opportunities (Multi-year project)	(1,2, 3,4)	Health Chp. P. 43, Green Tier Legacy Communities Zoning & Development	LOS for EPA grant Cannery Dist. Redevelop. & UWEC new arena & YMCA hazardous pollution assessment.	1st EPA grant not awarded. Seeking state DNR assistance for both sites and retrying a 2nd time with EPA. LOS provided again but grant denied.
9	Explore the feasibility of undertaking a climate action plan (Multi-year project)	(1,2, 3,4)	Health Chp. P. 42, Sustainability Chp. P. 12	Paris COP21 treaty signed. Project added at 1-19-16 bi-annual review.	Researching other city plan, efforts, and costs. Starting to inventory emissions from sources.
10	Provide green infrastructure recommendations to reduce pollution runoff & impervious surfaces/urban heat effect/air pollution	(1,2, 3,4)	Sustainability Chp. P. 9	New Project	Background and options provided to evaluate.
11	Adopt a Tree Preservation ordinance	3,4	Sustainability Chp. P. 9	New Project	Background and options provided to evaluate.
12	Create a series of public educaitonal brochures on various sustainability topics	(1,2, 3,4)	ACS Ordinance encourages community promotion	New Project but City website has public resources listed.	Determine topics and design work. Possibly have UWEC assist.
13	Create mini grant program to encourage community members to advance sustainability	(1,2, 3,4)	ACS Ordinance encourages community promotion	New Project	Contingent on funding by City or other source.

* The City, in Resolution 2009-232, adopted using the four system conditions of The Natural Step. To become a more sustainable society we must eliminate our contributions of...

1. Concentrations of detrimental substances extracted from the earth's crust,
2. Concentrations of toxic substances produced by society,
3. Degradation to nature by physical means,
4. Circumstances that undermine people's ability to meet their needs.